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On Christian or on Heathen ground."

WORCESTER.

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Communications.

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MODUS OPERANDI OF LOBELIA.

BY PROF. E. M. PARRITT.

I propose, in the present article, to present a rationale for the action of lobelia on the animal economy, in hopes, by so doing, to afford a safe criterion by which to estimate its effects, and to avoid the embarrassment occasionally attendant on its exhibition. How far I shall succeed, the sequel must determine.

Whatever may be the exciting causes, vomiting is due to a specific action of the stomach, and the consent of certain muscles of



the thorax and abdomen. Some have regarded the stomach as entirely passive in the process of vomiting, and its own contractions as having no agency in expelling its contents. In describing the mechanism of vomiting, they represent the stomach as being in a relaxed flaccid state, and the expulsion of its contents as due to the mechanical compression, to which it is subjected, between the diaphragm, and the viscera, forced upward by the contraction of the abdominal muscles.<sup>1</sup> In order to have clear conceptions of the functions performed by the respective organs implicated in the process of vomiting, it will be necessary to enter somewhat into detail. At the commencement of the effort, the larynx is closed spasmodically. The air in the lungs, thus prevented from escaping, presents resistance to the upper surface of the diaphragm, and prevents its farther ascent into the thoracic cavity. Hence the diaphragm becomes a fixed plane or slightly concave surface, against which the stomach is compressed with more or less force, by the contents of the abdomen, urged upward by the simultaneous contraction of the abdominal muscles. Coincident with these muscular contractions, the pharynx being drawn up as in the process of deglutition, the cardiac orifice of the stomach is thereby opened, thus forming one continuous cavity extending from this viscus to the mouth, through which its contents are expelled, with a force proportionate to the compression on its walls.

Those who reject the agency of the contraction of the muscular coats of the stomach, and who regard this organ as passive in the process of emesis, conceive these muscular contractions to be incompatible with the dilatation of its cardiac orifice, and hence conceive its flaccid condition, (which, by a mere elevation of the œsophagus, permits the necessary expansion of this opening,) as an indispensable condition of the organ. Thus, if to an elastic bag, partially filled with liquids, an elastic tube be attached opening into it, we enlarge the orifice in the bag by pulling upon the tube.

It seems to me, however, that the illustration is extremely unhappy, and one moment's thought will show the conclusion to be false. Indeed, muscular contraction of the tunics of the stomach would

<sup>1</sup> Cyclopædia of Prac. Med. Vol. I. p. 778.



tend immediately to expand the cardiac orifice. If we conceive of an elastic circular orifice surrounded by muscular structures whose points of attachment are exterior to the periphery of the opening, then it follows, that any contraction of the muscles must diminish the distance between the boundary of the orifice and the points of attachment. But, since these points of attachment are in the same plane, and exterior to the circumference of the orifice, surrounding it in all directions, any contraction must be followed by an enlargement of the orifice. Contraction of the muscular tunics of the stomach, therefore, instead of being an obstacle to the dilatation of this orifice—an *indispensable requisite* in emesis—tends directly to secure this *necessary* condition of the œsophageal opening.

Again, vomiting has been produced in animals after removing the abdominal muscles, thus preventing the possibility of mechanical compression, and leaving the muscular contractions alone to void its contents.<sup>2</sup> That its muscular tunics contract with sufficient energy to expel its ingesta is abundantly evidenced, by its forcibly triturating and blending together the food in the process of digestion, bringing every portion of it in contact with the parietes of the stomach. This is affected by the alternate contraction and relaxation of its muscular fasciculi.<sup>3</sup>

Emesis, therefore, is due, not only to the compression to which the stomach is subjected between the diaphragm and the abdominal viscera, but to contractions of the muscular coats of the stomach itself acting synchronously with the muscles of respiration, at the moment when the glottis is closed. Even those who advocate the passivity of the stomach, are compelled to admit the agency of muscular contraction in *direct emetics*.<sup>4</sup>

But muscular exertion, wherever it exists, is due to nervous influence, nor can we produce vomiting, however much we may goad the stomach with emetics, *in cases where the nervous energy is suspended*.<sup>5</sup> The only question, therefore, which now demands our attention is, Does the emetic substance exert its exciting influence on the sentient extremities of the nerves of the stomach itself, thence communicating with the brain, and sympathetically calling

<sup>2</sup> Sir Charles Bell, *Anatomy of Human Body*. Lieutaud and Haller.

<sup>3</sup> Merton's *Anat.* p. 308. <sup>4</sup> *Cyclop. Prac. Med.* vol. I, p. 780. <sup>5</sup> *Ibid.* pp. 777 & 780.



into play the auxiliary muscles concerned in emesis? Or, is it, after undergoing the process of solution in the liquids of the stomach, absorbed, and thus enabled to make its impressions on the medulla oblongata, sympathetically rousing into action, through the motor nerves, the thoracic and abdominal muscles?

My own opinion is, that one class of emetics *are absorbed* and thus produce their specific effects; but another class, (the irritants, whether chemical or mechanical,) evidently produce their results by acting directly on the extremities of the nerves of the stomach. I conceive lobelia to belong to the latter class. Although but a tithe of its effects, are due to its acrid principles, yet its more prominent effects are evidently the result of impressions produced upon the nerves of the stomach. In order that we may more fully comprehend the bearing of the subsequent remarks, it will be necessary to fix in our minds the nerves by which the stomach is supplied and the sources from whence they are derived.

"The nerves of the stomach are derived from the pneumogastric, and from the semi-lunar ganglions of the sympathetic. The former surrounds the cardiac orifice as a plexus, and is the medium of communication between *the stomach, the œsophagus and pharynx, the larynx, lungs, and heart*. The gastric or coronary plexus is derived from the upper part of the solar plexus, some of the filaments of which ramify upon the cardia, while others follow the coronary artery along the lesser curvature of the stomach, and anastomose with the hepatic plexus."<sup>6</sup> The pneumogastric nerve therefore, principally supplies the stomach. "The filaments from the coronary plexus of the stomach, as well as *those of the pneumogastric nerve* after having run for some distance beneath the peritoneum, perforate the muscular coat of the stomach, and appear to be *partly lost in it, and partly in the mucous membrane*."<sup>7</sup> It is admitted by high authority, that the *gastric* branches of the pneumogastric nerve, influence both the *motions* and *secretions* of the stomach.<sup>8</sup> Bearing these facts in mind, I will now proceed to point out what I conceive to be the *modus operandi* of lobelia.

The peculiar effects produced by lobelia are due to probably only two of its proximate principles, viz: a volatile acrid oil, (?)

<sup>6</sup> Morton's Anat. pp. 306 & 533.

<sup>7</sup> Cruveilhier.

<sup>8</sup> Morton's Anat. p. 591.



and the alkaloidal principle lobelina. If lobelia be given in infusion, (the most common form in which it is exhibited,) both of these principles, being soluble in water, are immediately transported into the stomach. The *acid* principle, thus brought in contact with extremities of the gastric branch of the pneumogastric nerve, distributed through the mucous and muscular tunics of the stomach, makes an immediate impression, causing nausea, and, if it be present in sufficient quantity, vomiting. But this acid principle, soon expending its irritative energies, ceases to make its peculiar impression, and all nausea from this cause immediately subsides. Thus far its action is precisely similar to that of sulphate of zinc, ammonia, and salts of copper; in short, it is a direct emetic, and, like all of the class, acts by impressing the nerves of the cardiac portion of the stomach. This acid principle probably undergoes spontaneous resolution into its ultimate products, thereby losing its acidity, and hence ceases to create nausea and its attendant symptoms. But the alkaloidal principle, the *lobelina*, from the therapeutic action of which the most important benefits are derived to the system, has as yet not been disposed of; and, I confess, it has cost me more trouble to secure a satisfactory disposition of this part of my subject than of any other portion.

The lobelina in the plant, and consequently in the infusion, is always associated with an acid thus constituting a *salt*. *As a salt, lobelina is incapable of producing its peculiar effects.* This I shall attempt to demonstrate. Let us first investigate how one therapeutic agent may (when both are administered per stomach) arrest or modify the action of another. If an agent be administered in substance, whether in the form of powder or pillular, unless its action be purely mechanical, it must first undergo the process of solution; for the principle of the ancient chemists, *corpora non agunt, nisi fluida sint*, is as universal in medicine as in chemistry. Since the gastric fluids are the menstrua in which this solution must be accomplished, it is evident, if we so far dilute them by the administration of any liquid, as to destroy their solvent properties, the agent will remain an inert mass capable of producing only mechanical effects. Again, if the agent which we administer be in solution, and we exhibit another for which it has strong chemical



affinities, and with which it forms an insoluble compound, we render it, as before, an inert mass, and thus completely arrest its action. If the resulting compound be feebly soluble, requiring a large quantity of the menstrua, it is evident we thus diminish the intensity of its action or even give rise to an entirely new therapeutic effect. To illustrate, suppose a quantity of some corrosive salt has been swallowed. By its energetic affinities for the constituents of the tissues, it is capable of producing extensive lesions, or of forming new combinations with them, which are incompatible with the vitality of the structure. But I present another base, for which the acid of my salt has a superior affinity, and I obtain a new salt, corrosive it may be, but still much less soluble than the former. If now we conceive (and the conception is abundantly justified by facts), that the vitality of the parts is capable of controlling and directing affinities, when not excessively energetic, then the new salt which in sufficient quantity would produce destructive results, becomes, in consequence of the minute portion in the menstrua, simply an irritant, possibly only a stimulant. Thus three different grades of therapeutic action may be produced by varying the solubility of the agent; for I conceive the first two grades of action here referred to, (viz, corrosion and irritation), wholly, and the latter (stimulation), to a certain extent, dependent upon the energy of chemical action.

So far, therefore, as therapeutic action is dependent on chemical affinities, we vary the results, by modifying the intensity of these affinities; or we arrest the action, by satisfying the predominant affinity. Therapeutists commonly class the effects of medicinal agents, under three heads, Mechanical, Chemical, and Dynamic,—the three grades frequently occurring in the same agent. I have discussed the mode of varying the effects of medicines when dependent on chemical affinities. The mechanical effects need no illustration. But the *dynamic*, ah! here is indeed the *re-incognita* of medical men, the oft recurring but still unsolved problem of medical science. I confess I am more than favorably impressed with the *chemical* theory. That there exist *vital* chemical laws, in subserviency to which all the therapeutic agents of our *materia medica* act, and which, if fully developed, would explain the im-



mediate and remote results of our medicinal agents, I have not the least doubt. It is true there are certain effects—constant sequences from the exhibition of certain remedial means—the results of a potent influence exercised over the organization by therapeutic agents,—which are *apparently* not due to either chemical or mechanical agencies. But, since the effect follows the exhibition of the agent, it is a sufficient evidence that they bear to each other the relation of cause and effect; and, whatever may be the intervening links of connection, or how complicated soever their relation, still I am certain, that connection is of a *purely material* character, subordinate to material laws. The affinities, which control matter in the crucible or the retort, equally exert their influence over it in the organized being. “There is no doubt that the vital principle exercises a great power over chemical forces, yet it does so only by directing the way in which they are to act, and not *by changing the laws* to which they are subject. Hence, when the chemical forces are employed, in the processes of vegetable [or animal] nutrition, [or medication,] they must produce the same results which are observed in ordinary chemical phenomena.” There are but two ways in which this connection between the agent and its effect can be conceived to exist. Either there must be a material connection such as I have intimated; or we must conceive the vitality of the part upon which the agent produces its so called dynamic effect, as endowed with intelligence, which receives the suggestion of its specific action from the *inert* and unintelligent agent. This latter assumption is too preposterous to receive one moment’s serious attention. What an *ignis fatuus* has that ideal—*nothing*—the *vis medicatrix naturæ*—*vis conservatrix* been to the medical profession. Rejecting, as unworthy our serious notice, the *vis expultrix* of the older physicians, to the intelligent agency of which they committed the important office of selecting what was useless and of expelling it from the system, we yet gravely retain its elder and more vicious sister, the *vis medicatrix naturæ*, and learnedly descant on the dynamic effect of medicines exercised through the agency of this medical chimera. I suspect very strongly, that, of those medicines which are supposed to act dynamically, a large number pro-



duce their effects, by affinities as yet occult; and that the phenomena of the remainder are due to *electrical* agencies. Now, when it is recollected that *chemical affinities* and *electricity* are, in the opinions of the most eminent philosophers, identical, and hence convertible terms,<sup>10</sup> it seems to me more rational to refer the action of all remedies to mechanical and chemical agencies, not rejecting the co-operation of the vitality of the system, the tendencies of which are *always physiological*. Let us now thread our way out of this mirage of theories into the bare margin of which we have incautiously ventured, and return once more to facts, the *terra firma* of the medical explorer,—satisfied with having at least learned *a term*, if we have not gained an idea.

The action of lobelina on the system is dynamic, that is, it acts upon the nervous system leaving no *appreciable chemical* or *mechanical* change in the structures. This dynamic action, in my opinion, consists in first unduly exciting, and subsequently exhausting the *neuro-electric current*.

The lobelina contained in the infusion, is, as has already been observed, associated with its native acid in the form of a *lobeliate* (?) of *lobelina*. If now its action be dynamic, and if that dynamic action consist in an extraordinary excitement of the neuro-electric influence, (and I can conceive of no other dynamic action,) *then will the intensity of its effects be proportionate to the facility with which it is resolved into its ultimate elements, and its quantity of action will bear a direct ratio to its equivalent number*. For, even admitting this neuro-electric influence to be a modified form of electricity, still the modification can by no means change fundamental laws. I here make the assumption, that nervous influence is but a modified form of ordinary electricity. I make this assumption not alone; nor is the doctrine of the identity of nervous influence and electricity a recent one. As early as 1825 Bischoff in a work entitled *Die Lehre von den chemischen Heilmitteln* strongly advocated this doctrine; and, although the progress in electrical science has made such advances, and developed such a connection between chemical action and electrical phenomena, as render some of his *then* positions untenable, yet it has only proved defect

<sup>10</sup> Fownes' Chem. p: 167. Phil. 1847.



in the details, whilst it confirms the main doctrine. The experiments of Magendie, the researches of Prof. Zantedeschi, and Dr. Favio most clearly demonstrate the truth of the doctrine; and Liebig's *vital force* so nearly coincides with electricity from the galvanic battery, that, in the parallel which he has drawn, not the least divergence can be discovered,—introducing it, (electricity) as he says, to give clear conceptions of the origin and source of mechanical motions in the animal economy, since its manifestations “are *most closely* allied to the vital force.”

Regarding nervous influence therefore, as but a modified form of electricity,—*neuro-electricity*—the explanation of many difficult phenomena becomes comparatively easy; and, by an application of the fundamental laws of electricity which obtain in the inorganic, we shall arrive at a rational explanation of phenomena in the organic kingdom.

All chemical phenomena are due to electrical agencies; in other words, all chemical actions are but manifestations of electrical forces.<sup>12</sup>

The action of the electric force is *perfectly definite* in its nature, producing a fixed and constant amount of decomposition, expressed in each electrolyte, (body undergoing decomposition,) by the value of its chemical equivalent.<sup>13</sup> Hence the effects of chemical decomposition are proportionate to the quantity of circulating electricity; that is, *chemical affinity and electricity are one and the same force*.<sup>14</sup> Now, since the cause and the effect, *cæteris paribus*, bear to each other a constant ratio, it follows that the quantity of electricity is proportionate to the amount of chemical decomposition, and its intensity (quantity developed in a given time) to the rapidity of that decomposition.

Now, if we regard the vitality of the system as giving impetus to the decomposition of any substance introduced into the stomach, its effects on the nervous system, that is, its power to excite the neuro-electric influence, will be proportionate to the rapidity of its decomposition; and the period of time, during which this impression will be produced, will be equal to that occupied in its dissolution. Hence it follows, that those substances which are most unstable in their constitution, which undergo decomposition with the

<sup>12</sup> Berzelius. <sup>13</sup> Fownes' Chem. p. 164. Phil. 1847. <sup>14</sup> Kane, by Draper.



greatest facility, are most energetic in their action on the animal economy. Let us see how far facts justify my conclusions. Hydrocyanic acid, in an extremely small quantity, if applied to the back portion of the tongue of an animal, causes instant death. But Hydrocyanic acid is one of the most unstable compounds in the laboratory. In its pure form, it *can not be* preserved. Even when carefully excluded from the atmosphere in a well stopped bottle, or hermetically sealed in a glass tube, it spontaneously undergoes decomposition. When, for medicinal purposes, it has been diluted, so as to contain but two per cent of the acid, it will resist decomposition for some time; but the least predisposing cause, giving the impetus, it is suddenly converted into a brown pasty mass.

Again, the vegeto-alkalies are characterized, as a class, by the *energy of their action on the animal economy*. They all contain a considerable quantity of *nitrogen*, and are very complicated in constitution, having *high combining numbers*. They are all decomposed by *heat* at various temperatures. Now this is a general rule to which there are but few, if any, exceptions. Bodies which are most complex from the number of elements, and the want of simplicity in their equivalent relations, are by constitution weakest, and least capable of resisting the action of disturbing forces.<sup>15</sup> Hence, as a class, the vegeto-alkalies are extremely unstable, yielding to the slightest disturbing force. Combined with an acid, they become more fixed in their constitution, and resist any change with considerable energy. Lobelina belongs to this class.

It also follows, that any medicine which resists decomposition, must necessarily fail to produce *dynamic* effects; and, if it act at all, it will be in a purely mechanical manner. Hence insoluble compounds are inert. I am aware there are many *apparent* exceptions to this rule, found principally in the mineral kingdom. These exceptions I will make the subject of a future article. In the remedies drawn from the organic kingdom, which act dynamically, those which are most energetic leave behind no traces of their presence. They entirely disappear from the system, and consequently can have been disposed of in but one of two ways;—either their constituents, after entering the circulation, take a direct share in

<sup>15</sup> Fownes' Chem, p. 248.



the formation of structures of similar ultimate composition ; or they are conveyed to the secreting organs where they *exert an influence* on the formation, (?) or quality of the secretions by the *addition* of their own elements.<sup>16</sup> Now it is evident, that in the first, viz., where their elements are appropriated by structures of similar ultimate constitution, they merely serve the purposes of nutrition, and consequently produce none of the dynamic effects attributed to medicinal agents. In the second mode of disposition, when they affect the character of the secretions by the addition of their own elements, their power to produce dynamic effects will be dependent on two circumstances. 1. If the secretion be of an excrementitious character, as the urine, sweat, &c., its immediate expulsion from the system, precludes the possibility of medicinal effect. 2. But, if the secretion be of such a character as to be appropriated by the system in its operations of digestion (as in the case of gastric juice) or assimilation, we may then conceive that the altered character of the secretion might influence both the organs and their functions. This last supposition only proves the fact, that, in this case, before producing its specific effect, the medicine has been subjected to a vital pharmacy,—a preparatory process of the system precisely analogous to that of the pharmacist ; but still leaves unsolved the question, How does the altered secretion produce its dynamic effects ? It is apparent, therefore, that the medicinal effects must be produced, *either anterior to, or coincident with its decomposition*. Dynamically, the former is impossible.

As a salt, therefore, (that is in connection with an acid,) lobelina is incapable of producing any save mechanical effects,—its impression being due to its dissolution. As has before been observed with reference to the class to which it belongs, when combined with an acid, it resists any decomposition with considerable force. When, therefore, we administer it in infusion, after the effects due to its acrid principle have subsided, the patient for a short period of time experiences no unpleasant sensation ; and, if there be an acid condition of the stomach, this period will be considerably prolonged.

This suspension of its action, in many instances for a considerable period of time, might lead us to suspect that the lobelina was

<sup>16</sup> Liebig An. Chem. p. 55.



absorbed, and produced its peculiar effects upon the nervous system, by being brought immediately in contact with the origin of the motor nerves. There is a variety of facts which seem to stand opposed to this conclusion. If we suddenly expose lobelina to a temperature of  $212^{\circ}$ , it almost instantaneously undergoes decomposition, becoming perfectly insipid and inert. Even when it is in connection with acetic acid, its tendencies to undergo decomposition are so great, as to require the greatest caution in its preparation to prevent loss. Again, if exposed for some considerable period of time to a temperature of  $102^{\circ}$ , its elements spontaneously react, and decomposition ensues. Since the process of digestion is analogous to fermentation or *eremacausis*; and since the lobelina is joined to its native acid by an extremely feeble affinity, an affinity which probably, at the moment of entering the stomach, yields to the superior chemical attraction of the free hydrochloric acid, always present in the gastric juice, or to the lactic and other acids accidentally present; and since the temperature of the stomach and its contents is such as to favor decomposition; a dissolution of its elements must necessarily result from these combined predisposing causes, long before absorption to any great extent could occur. If, in addition to this, we take into account the peculiar viscid secretion which is always thrown off copiously from the mucous lining of the stomach upon the exhibition of lobelia,—a secretion which some have erroneously supposed to be a morbid product existing in the stomach previous to its administration,—which, sheathing the walls of the stomach, must necessarily present a mechanical impediment; we shall be still more inclined to the conclusion, that its primary effects are principally confined to the stomach, yet exerting sympathetically a most potent influence over remote organs.

Again, it is a well known fact, that we promptly promote emesis by neutralizing the acid present. Now there can be but one satisfactory explanation of this phenomenon. The presence of an acid in the stomach, cannot be conceived to either retard or promote emesis, unless it be of a corrosive character. But the acids present cannot be sufficiently concentrated to act thus;—if so, the stomach would have freed itself from the offending cause previous to the administration of the lobelia. The acid must, therefore, prevent



emesis by combining with the emetic substance, thus forming a salt, which, though soluble, yet pertinaciously resists decomposition. The administration of an alkali, not only neutralizes the uncombined acids present in the stomach, but, in virtue of its superior affinities, detaches the acids, either *native* or *gastric*, which may have been united with the lobelina, giving rise to salts of soda or potash, (if these alkalies be employed,) and setting the lobelina free. But, if the lobelina, in the form of a *salt* or *free*, had been absorbed, the alkali could, by no possible means, reach the then remote emetic substance and stimulate its latent powers into activity.

Finally, immediately preceding emesis, the patient experiences a peculiar sensation of heat in the epigastric region, a neuralgic pain in the stomach, particularly in the cardiac portion, around the œsophageal opening, the action of the heart and arteries is temporarily increased, a sensation of fullness about the head, accompanied with that peculiar dizzy sickness, which so often immediately precedes syncope, a feeling of oppression about the lungs, and finally a sense of stricture about the throat, accompanied with a scratching sensation in the fauces and pharynx, which many (amusingly enough) have mistaken for the acrid taste of the lobelia. I have detailed carefully the various symptoms in the order in which the patient most frequently experiences them. Now when we recall to mind the anatomical relation of the parts, and recollect that the pneumogastric nerve, in its passage from the restiform body of the medulla oblongata to the stomach, sends off branches to the larynx, pharynx, œsophagus, lungs, and heart, and that it is the medium of communication between these organs, we shall readily understand how the lobelina, acting dynamically, at the instant of its decomposition, on the plexus or net-work of nerves around the cardiac orifice of the stomach, would necessarily give rise to the symptoms before detailed. It also follows, that the various organs will be affected to a greater or less extent, as they are more or less influenced by the various branches proceeding from the main trunk. Thus, the sensation of heat in the epigastric region, and pain in the cardiac portion of the stomach, are due to the immediate impression produced upon the gastric branches which form a plexus (net-work) about this orifice;—the slightly increased action of the heart, to



the cardiac branches which exert a limited influence on the muscular movements of this organ. The pulmonary branches (being both motor and sensitive) exert an important influence on respiration; and hence are largely affected, producing a feeling of oppression, which, once felt, is rarely forgotten. The laryngeal and pharyngeal branches in like manner implicate these structures, giving rise to the symptoms peculiar to these organs. But, if we suppose the lobelina to be absorbed, and, after entering the sanguinary circulation, to be transported to the origin of the motor nerves, and thus to give rise to the spasmodic action of the various organs in vomiting, still we shall fail to explain the peculiar impressions produced upon the nerves of sensation. Hence, I conclude the lobelina, when administered per stomach, expends its force, and undergoes decomposition principally in that organ.

From what has been said, I arrive at the following conclusions, that, when administered in infusion, the acrid proximate principles of the plant, acting as irritants, give rise to nausea and vomiting, if in sufficient quantities, and act simply as evacuants, giving rise to but few, if any, constitutional effects;—that, before the lobelina can produce its peculiar effects, it must exist in the state of a vegeto-alkali, uncombined with any acid;—that its effects are wholly dynamic, being confined to the brain and nerves, thus indirectly exerting an influence over the other structures;—that this dynamic effect consists in its power to excite, by its own decomposition, the *neuro-electric* influence;—that the energy of its action, on the animal economy, is due to the facility with which its elements yield to disturbing forces, and that its quantity of action is proportionate to its chemical equivalent;—that, when administered per stomach, it is not absorbed, at least to any great extent, but affects the remote organs sympathetically,—through the pneumogastric nerve primarily, and secondarily through the gastric plexus derived from the upper portion of the solar plexus of the great splanchnic nerves;—that it produces emesis, by unduly exciting the *neuro-electric* influence, thus stimulating into action the muscular tunics of the stomach, and the thoracic and abdominal muscles, which mechanically aid in ejecting the contents of the stomach.

I will, in a succeeding number of the Journal, continue my re-



marks, in which I will examine its character as to its narcotic properties, and give what I regard as its rationale in producing relaxation, diaphoresis, and other therapeutic effects. I will also explain what agents are incompatible, and those which promote its action.

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## THE PROGRESS OF PROFESSIONAL TRUTH.

PROF. C. NEWTON :—

DEAR SIR,—I have the pleasure of sending you the names of two other subscribers. This I do with feelings of delight, and I hope that I shall be able to obtain many more ; but the people generally think that the Journal is not worth as much to them as some newspaper which is filled with blackguard and nonsense. They have not yet learned how to appreciate truth and science. It seems to require some thought, on their part, to enable them to understand the valuable articles which are contained in the Journal. They, therefore, prefer to let their minds feed on nonsense and folly, which do not require thought.

I trust, that the friends of medical reform will arouse from such stupid notions, and call every nerve into action. If they will do this, they can accomplish much. For instance, if every one who takes some two or three newspapers, would take one paper less, and send for the Journal, read it, and give it to his friends to read, so that they, too, could be benefited by its valuable productions ; or, if those who are friends to the cause, who do not read so many newspapers, would abandon the use of that abominable weed, nicotiana tabacum, (tobacco) and spend, for Journals, one fourth the money which they spend for it, would read and distribute these Journals among their friends, they would become more enlightened, and enjoy far better health.

Sir, the question can no longer be entertained, whether the science of medicine is a part of the new order of things. The experience of the day has declared the truth of it. The Physio-Medical system is amply sufficient to relieve the sufferings of man, in



all cases, in which the organs of life are not so depressed as to totally destroy the vis conservatrix. Its resurrection is stamped with the broad seal of cura curatio. We trust, that all men will abandon the system of bloodshed and poisoning, and all systems of quackery, and will fly to the system that has, for its leading agents, the most innocent yet efficient plants, prepared by the Omnipotent hand.

Old Allopathy is fast dwindling away. The flame of its vitality is faintly flickering in its socket. Allopathists see that they have given rise to as many jeers and objections as they can; and they are fully persuaded in their own minds, that their sandy foundations are fast crumbling away. They see that they are surrounded with darkness, and covered with vanity. Some of them struggle mightily to maintain their system; while others pretend to know all systems, and practice accordingly. The former are beginning to see that their struggles are all in vain; and the latter are fully persuaded in their own minds, that the people are getting tired of being humbugged.

We are fully persuaded that a brighter day has made its appearance, and that its majestic rays will continue to spread themselves, and increase in brilliancy, as long as civilization exists. Its advocates are energetic, and they are determined to throw, on the subject, all the light that is in their power. They are willing and ready to examine every theory that is plausible, or promises good. Our cause has its orators, its authors, and its editors. It stands on the platform of prosperity, and all her advocates are actively employed in its heaven-favored work. We have our hands stretched out to relieve the sufferings of our fellow man; and we beseech of you, who value health, to accept our supplications. We beseech of you, who love science, to assist us in this arduous work. We have no intention to trample on the feelings of any man; but, we feel it an indispensable duty, due to our fellow-beings, to advocate true professional science. We cannot honor it with too deep a reverence. We cannot love it with an affection too pure and fervent; nor can we serve it with an energy of purpose, or a faithfulness of zeal too steadfast and ardent.

What is our system? It is not bleeding, leeching, cupping,



cauterizing, and poisoning; in short, it is not the life-destroying system which has been so popular, in past years. We have no intention to misrepresent any system. We only wish to spread the matter before you, in its own true odiousness, and point out some of its life-wasting principles. Conscious are we, that we cannot do justice to the subject. We are not able to lay open every wound and aching part, as it should be done. But this we can say, Ours is the system that has for its instruments of cure those agents which act in harmony with physiological laws, or those agents that assist the *vis medicatrix nature* in her efforts to remove disease out of the body.

This is the broad platform upon which we stand; and, be assured, that we cannot, as physicians, think too much of such a system, or sacrifice too much for it. I trust, that we never shall forget, that it is our indispensable duty to aid nature in her efforts to remove all obstructions from the body, and, at the same time, aid her in protecting herself against offending causes.

If we desire to see this system stretching over every land, and trampling under foot humbuggery and quackery, we must unite our efforts, and take hold of every means which tends to hasten its rapid and onward course. Now is the time to work. Now is the time to make the gigantic strides. Be not ignorant, whilst the light of truth is so beautiful and brilliant. Trust not yourselves to ease, whilst there is such a call for energy of mind and vigor of body. One very essential thing is, to be *liberal with the dimes*. Now is the time to work for science and benevolence. Soon, we shall be able to increase the purse to its utmost extent. Let it now be the object of our ambition to see science triumph over quackery.

Yours Respectfully,

A. L. WHITEHALL, M. D.

*Attica, Ind.*



## GESTATION.

## THE CIRCUMSTANCES SOMEWHAT UNUSUAL.

[The following portion of a private letter, addressed to us by one of our late graduates, will be read with interest, especially by the younger members of the profession, whose obstetrical experience has been limited. We answered our friend's inquiries, as well as we could; but have, as yet, received no further information.

We will here remark, that, in one case, which recently came within the limits of our practice, the period of gestation was evidently extended through eleven months. At the termination of nine months, there were evidences that fœtal death had taken place; but the subsequent events were left almost exclusively to the direction of unassisted nature. The issue, notwithstanding the repeated uttering of "old wives' fables," was what it should be, though the fœtus, when expelled, was much decayed.

Were our professional advice, in a case like this, to be implicitly followed, the only variation in the course pursued would be, to assist in bringing about the result, by the use of the "Mother's Cordial," *macrotyrs racemosa*, *caulophyllum thalictroides*, or something of the kind, adapted to promote a healthy uterine action. When nature is allowed to lead in all such cases, and is aided—not thwarted—in her operations, the event is almost always safe and desirable. The multitude of occurring bad cases are nearly all made, by the mal-practice of empirical and meddlesome accoucheurs.—EDITOR.]

PROF. NEWTON:—

The following facts, relative to a case now under my charge, are deemed sufficiently singular and important, to merit the consideration of the wiser and more experienced of the profession. I, therefore, submit them for your consideration and advice, which I hope you will find it practicable to give, ere it be too late to benefit the patient.

On the 16th of Feb. last, I was requested to visit a Mrs. W. of this village, of a nervous sanguine temperament, and of an age a little above 30. She informed me, that the menses had ceased



about the first of July, 1849, at which time she became pregnant. Having suffered much from neuralgic symptoms during her two former pregnancies, and having had a protracted and painful convalescence from the two accouchements, under the Old-School practice, she concluded to try the Reformed. As she was then suffering neuralgic symptoms, which she described by the term "numbness," I ordered mild stimulants and nervines in combination, together with bathing and friction. These, with variations in combination and kind, have been continued since that time. She has, also, taken Smith's "Mother's Cordial."

The above treatment has produced, or been attended by, a quite comfortable state of the patient. But, to the great surprise of the lady, no symptoms of labor manifested themselves on the first of April, as was confidently expected, nor have they appeared since, except feebly, for brief periods.

On Sunday, at 2 o'clock, P. M., I was summoned to her in haste. Uterine hemorrhage was present, with slight, mimic labor pains, head-ache, and nausea, with a full pulse, which was a little increased in frequency. I made a vaginal examination. The neck of the womb was so high as to be reached with difficulty, and there was no dilatation of the os uteri. I prescribed a decoction of the leaves of the *rubus strigosus*, made pungent with *capsicum annuum*, and *macrotyrs racemosa*, in powder. I applied warmth to the feet, and cold water to the head. The hemorrhage rapidly abated, until it wholly ceased; but it returned moderately on the following morning, with pain in the head, which last increased until afternoon, when it became intense, with loss of appetite. I now vomited the patient, and all unpleasant symptoms subsided. She rested well on the following night, her appetite soon returned, and she has since remained quite comfortable.

The motions of the child, which for many days had grown more and more feeble, have ceased to be recognised by the mother, since Monday night. She is confident the child is dead. No other symptoms of death of the fœtus,—as, a dead weight and coldness within the abdomen, have been noticed. Will not such soon manifest themselves? The lady thinks she felt the first motion about the first week of November. I calculated her accouche-



ment, from this symptom, to take place the first or second week of the present month, believing that the menses had ceased from some other cause than pregnancy. But I am swamped; and she, in the predicament above detailed, is in a peck of trouble, harassed with gloomy forebodings.

Well, dear sir, what is to be done? This is the question. Shall we use means with a view of exciting genuine labor pains, and hastening the expulsion of the fœtus? or, shall our medication be directed to the palliation of urgent symptoms only, while we leave the case, so far as the time of expulsion is concerned, to nature? Knowing, as you must, the narrowness with which the first obstetric cases of a reformer are watched, as well as the great injury which a *failure* may do him and our good cause, I trust you will lose no time in forwarding your advice in this case. I am grateful for the *aid* and *comfort*, you have rendered me heretofore, under somewhat trying circumstances.

May 31st, 1850.

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### N. Y. STATE PHYSO-MEDICAL SOCIETY.

The first Annual Meeting of the New York State Physo-Medical Society was held at the Capitol in the City of Albany, on the 11th of June, 1850.

At 11 o'clock, A. M., the President, Wm. B. Stanton, M. D., took the chair, and called the Society to order, when, on motion, the minutes of the adjourned meeting held in October, 1849, were read and adopted.

On motion of Dr. Mattocks, Resolved, that a Committee of five be appointed by the Chair to nominate officers for the ensuing year. The Chair announced the following named gentlemen for that service, S. B. Vail, H. M. Sweet, E. J. Mattocks, J. B. Doolittle, A. Mosher.

On motion of Dr. Doolittle, adjourned to meet at half past 2 o'clock, P. M.



The Society met according to adjournment. The President presented the credentials of Isaac J. Sperry, M. D., and Calvin W. Jaques, M. D., delegates from the Connecticut Botanico-Medical Society, on a visit of "brotherly remembrance and good wishes" to this Society. A Committee of two was appointed by the Chair to wait on the above-named gentlemen, and invite them to take seats with the Convention, and participate in its deliberations. Also, Dr. Mattocks presented Dr. Rufus Guilford of Vermont, to the meeting, who was invited to take a seat and participate in the proceedings of the Society.

The Committee to whom was referred the subject of nominating officers, reported the following.

For *President*, P. Lapham, N. Y. city.

*Vice President*, S. Tuthill, Poughkeepsie.

*Recording Sec'y*, H. M. Sweet, N. Y. city.

*Corresponding Sec'y*, O. Cook, Cambridge.

*Treasurer*, A. Mosher, Richmondville.

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#### CENSORS.

Wm. B. Stanton,

I. S. Mattocks,

A. Mosher,

Cyrus Thomson,

J. B. Doolittle.

#### TRUSTEES.

W. B. Stanton,

J. B. Doolittle,

S. B. Vail,

H. M. Sweet,

A. W. Russell,

E. J. Mattocks,

S. Tuthill.

The Report was accepted; and, upon balloting for the nominees for office, they were unanimously elected.

The Committee appointed at a previous meeting of the Society on Diplomas, reported progress. The report was accepted; and, on motion, Dr. P. Lapham was added to the Committee.

On motion, resolved, that the Delegates to this Convention from the Connecticut Botanico-Medical Society be granted Diplomas as honorary members of this Society. Also, that Dr. Rufus Guilford of Vermont receive a Diploma as an honorary member.

On motion resolved, that three Delegates be appointed to attend the next Annual Meeting of the Connecticut Botanico-Medical



Society ;—whereupon the Chair announced the following, as such Delegates. O. H. Cook, A. S. Russell, and Wm. B. Stanton.

On motion of Dr. Stanton, Resolved, that we hold no communion with *Eclecticism* or any other *ism*, unless founded on true physio-medical principles.

On motion, Resolved, that Drs. Stanton and Russell be appointed a Committee, with the Corresponding Secretary, to communicate with Professor Curtis of Ohio, or other Professors of similar medical principles, on the practicability of obtaining the delivery of a Course of Medical Lectures, at some point in the eastern part of this State, the ensuing Autumn or Winter, and report to the Board of Trustees.

The following resolutions, offered by Dr. Cook, were adopted.

Resolved, that a committee of four be appointed by the Chair to collect information respecting fevers in general, and give the Society their collected views of the proper mode of treatment, at their next annual meeting.

Committee, Drs. Lapham, Cook, Russell, and Stanton.

Resolved, that a Committee of three be appointed by the Chair to collect information, and report, to this Society at its next meeting, such facts as may tend to demonstrate the contagious, or non-contagious character of the epidemic cholera.

Committee, Drs. Mosher, Doolittle, and Tuthill.

On motion of Dr. Stanton, Resolved, that the Recording Secretary be instructed to provide the Delegates appointed to attend the Connecticut Botanico-Medical Society, with the proper Credentials, with the seal of the Society attached.

Resolved, that the President be and is hereby authorized to call special meetings of this Society at such times as it may appear necessary.

On motion of Dr. Stanton, Resolved, that the proceedings of this meeting be sent to the New England Botanic Medical and Surgical Journal for publication.

The Society adjourned, to meet at the Capitol in the city of Albany, on the second Tuesday of June, 1851.

P. LAPHAM, *President*.

S. B. VAIL, *Secretary, pro tem*.



## PSYCHOLOGY—A FACT.

PROF. NEWTON;—A few weeks since, a lad, while playing during school recess, was struck in the eye just below the pupil, with the sharpened end of a small stick. He says that the withdrawal of the stick was followed by two or three drops of limpid fluid, and vision immediately became confused, and very indistinct. He called on me the next day, complaining of pain, and soreness in the ball of the eye, enough to cause disturbed sleep, during the previous night. The conjunctiva was slightly injected; but, otherwise, the eye appeared perfectly normal,—the place of puncture not being perceivable. He was directed to apply cold water to the part, and protect his eyes from the light. In a few days the pain and most of the soreness had disappeared, but still vision remained as imperfect as at first.

Being a good psychological subject, he was induced to try the effect of passes over the eye. The first operation, of five minutes duration, much improved the sight; and the second of one hour, subsequently, completely restored it, so that he could see as well with the wounded, as with the sound eye.

As the above is an indisputable fact, I deem it worthy a place in the Journal.

J. M. ALDRICH, M. D.

*Fall River, June 27, 1850.*

## THE AMERICAN PRACTICE OF MEDICINE.

Revised, enlarged, and improved; being a practical exposition of Pathology, Therapeutics, Surgery, Materia Medica, and Pharmacy, on reformed principles; embracing the most useful portions of the former work, with correctness, additions, new remedies, and improvements; and exhibiting the results of the author's investigations in medicine in this country, and in a year's tour in Europe. By W. BEACH, M. D., member of the Medical Society of the City of New York; Professor of Clinical Practice in the Eclectic Medical College of Cincinnati, and of Syracuse; Corresponding



Member of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Berlin, Prussia, etc. In three volumes, illustrated by three hundred engravings.

This long promised work will be ready to deliver in a few days. It has necessarily been delayed in consequence of the great amount of labor in completing it. About twice the quantity of matter has been inserted that was at first contemplated, and one hundred extra engravings on wood added, in addition to colored ones. For these reasons, and the extra style in which it has been issued and the extraordinary expense incurred, I am compelled, contrary to my first proposition, and contrary to my wishes, to charge at retail Twenty Dollars per Copy for the work. Those who wish it may remit this amount by mail at my risk, directed to W. Beach, No. 141, Fulton Street, New York. As I have only received a sufficient number of plates from London for 260 copies, those who send their orders first will be first supplied. The Books will be sent by Express, or as ordered.

Parties ordering Five or more Copies will receive them at sixteen dollars per Copy.

W. BEACH.

*New York, June, 1850.*

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## Editorial.



### WORCESTER MEDICAL INSTITUTION.

#### ITS FIFTH ANNIVERSARY.

The fifth Anniversary of the Worcester Medical Institution took place on Wednesday, June 12th. The public exercises were held in the Institution Hall. They consisted of an able and appropriate Address from Prof. E. M. Parritt, and the ceremony of conferring the degree of Doctor in Medicine, on such members of the Class as were found to have complied with the requirements of the Institution for graduation.

The Class, in attendance during the Term now closed, numbered 29; five of whom, having sustained a satisfactory examination be-



fore the Board of Censors, and the Faculty,—having, also, completed a three years' course of medical study, and presented to the Faculty the required theses, received the degree of M. D. in course. Their names, residences, and theses are as follows.

Names.	Residences.	Theses.
GEORGE ANDREWS,	Guilford, Conn.,	<i>Diet.</i>
WILLIAM BAILEY,	Bowdoinham, Me.,	<i>A Proposed Substitute for Blisters.</i>
WILLIAM H. HEATH,	Sandwich, N. H.,	<i>Opium.</i>
WILLIAM LEACH,	Merideth Bridge, N.H.,	<i>Inflammation.</i>
WILLIAM C. STAPLE,	Industry, Me.,	<i>Carcinoma.</i>

Besides these individuals, Mr. Abraham F. Hervey was examined and approved as a candidate for the degree in September next, at which period he will have completed the required time of study.

The honorary degree of M. D. was also conferred on Dr. Reuben Green of West Acton, Mass.

The members of the Class generally have pre-eminently distinguished themselves by their love of the philosophy of medicine, and by a disposition to avail themselves of every means to become acquainted with the true principles of medical science.

The meeting of the Trustees, immediately subsequent to the public exercises, was one of unusual interest, on account of the peculiarity of the crisis at which the Institution has arrived. It was found, that various reports, detrimental to the interests of the Institution and derogatory to our own character, have been, for a considerable time, extending their circulation. Doubtless, these reports, like the stream enlarged by its tributaries, have received accessions to their defamatory character, in their onward course; but, in too many cases, for the honor or integrity of one of our associates, were they clearly traced to him as their source. We accordingly felt, that, under no circumstances whatever, could we longer retain our relation to the existing Faculty of the Institution, and we peremptorily and unqualifiedly tendered our resignation.

After so arduous struggles and abundant sacrifices as we have made, thus to find, that abuses abroad are sustained by allies at home, is more than our honor or our duty will allow us to bear.



For almost half a century, we have lived in the maintenance of an unblemished moral character; and we still defy any man to impeach that character.

As to scientific and professional attainments, our brethren may say of us what they choose. Our talents, such as they are, are before the world. All which has ever been our boast is, that we have learnt the first lesson in science; that is, we have come to understand, with that eminent man—our namesake of a past century,—that we are only in the condition of children playing with pebbles on the shore, while the great ocean of truth is before us. Of course, we would be greatly obliged to our friend Dr. Fisk of Killingly, Conn.,—who, it seems, has lately found out what we ourselves have long known—our limited intellectual qualifications,—*if* he will just impart to us a little from his super-abundant fulness.

Reports, however, involving the question of one's moral integrity, are quite another affair. We have been charged with managing the pecuniary interests of the Institution *very irregularly*.—with appropriating, to our own use, monies which belonged to our associates,—with granting diplomas without the direction of the Institution, &c., &c. These various charges have a foundation, not as substantial as the veriest *shade of a shadow*; and those who have had the audacity to make them (we care not whether they are hypocritical friends or open foes) we shall hold morally and professionally accountable. If they venture a repetition, we shall hold them *legally* accountable. We have reached that point, beyond which forbearance is not a virtue.

The pecuniary affairs of the Institution have been managed with the strictest economy, which the nature of the case has admitted. Indeed, in all our operations, we have, not only been willing for, but sought investigation. We have done every thing in the open light of day. And now, since false rumors have been so diligently circulated, it is but justice to ourselves to say thus distinctly, that, in point of fact, we have from time to time, been loaning funds to the Institution, and it is, at the present time, indebted to our liberality, in the sum of between two and three hundred dollars, advanced, directly from our pockets, to relieve its imperious necessities. Really, the tables are a little turned upon those who have so



insinuatingly and wickedly sought our injury, and that of the Institution.

But enough of this self-justification. Suffice it to say, the Trustees unanimously refused to accept our resignation, and appointed a Committee thoroughly to canvass the whole matter, and report at an adjourned meeting, July 1st, 1850.

Some changes were made in the Board ; and the officers, elected for the ensuing year, are Calvin Newton, President, E. M. Parritt, Secretary, and Wm. Johnson, Treasurer. The following persons were chosen as the next Board of Censors,—J. M. Aldrich, Aaron Ordway, Benjamin Warren, Ebenezer Robinson, Stephen Webster, A. R. Porter, and George M. Dadd.

Committees also were appointed to take charge of the various departments of business coming under the supervision of the Board. They are as follows ;

Committee on Finance, Geo. W. Churchill, Stephen Cutler, Wm. Johnson.

Committee on Buildings, E. M. Parritt, Charles Ballard, John A. Andrews.

Committee on Professorships, Calvin Newton, Walter Burnham, George W. Churchill.

Committee on Library, I. M. Comings, John A. Andrews, B. O. Wilson.

Also, a special Committee was appointed to investigate the subject which led to Prof. Newton's resignation. They were as follows ; E. M. Parritt, John A. Andrews, and George W. Churchill.

#### ADJOURNED MEETING.

At 10 o'clock, A. M., this day, July 1st, the adjourned meeting of the Institution was held at the house of the President. At this meeting, the whole matter of our relation to Prof. Comings was thoroughly canvassed.

It is proper here to say, that, as we love peace, we had quietly borne with the faults and misrepresentations of the Professor,—we had put the best construction on his intentions, although his policy was often, in our judgment, about as unwise as could be,—we had kept from the public eye, as best we could, the imperfections of



his teachings,—we had corrected the orthographical, grammatical, and rhetorical errors of his articles for the Journal, so as to render them passable, if not interesting, to our readers; and, for his individual benefit and the honor of a common cause, we had frequently expressed a willingness to continue to do so; but, at length, his misrepresentations and abuses became too flagrant to be longer endured. Especially, his wanton misstatements about our connexion with the pecuniary interests of the Institution would no longer allow of silence on our part. We demanded of the Trustees a thorough examination into all the matters in which we were professionally concerned; and, when it was proposed, that this should be done by a Committee, at our request, Prof. C. was appointed chairman. We did believe, that, whether he had ignorantly or wilfully perverted truth, he could not, after surveying the whole ground, longer persist in misrepresentations. The fact, however, proved otherwise. He seemed determined to take advantage of his position on that Committee, to abuse public sentiment and mould it to our personal injury. Of course, we felt, that we had no alternative. We could not longer remain where we should be liable to the continued reception of such false charges and wanton attacks.

These are, in short, the reasons why we refused longer to be connected with the immediate Government of the Institution. The Trustees, however, having referred the whole matter to the consideration of a new Committee, a proper and thorough investigation was instituted; and the report of the Committee was as follows.

#### **Report of the Committee on Dr. Newton's Resignation.**

Your Committee, to whom was referred the various charges and accounts, out of which Prof. Newton's resignation grew, beg leave to present the following report:

We find, upon investigation, that, in the incipient efforts to establish the Worcester Medical Institution, private individuals were under the necessity of assuming responsibilities of a pecuniary character. Thus, in the first Course of Lectures, in consequence of a failure on the part of a portion of the Class, to pay the demands due from them for instruction, John A. Andrews, M. D., and Prof. C. Newton, M. D., became liable to the amount of



eighty-six dollars, and were compelled to advance this sum from their private funds.

We find, also, that, in the subsequent operations of the College, previously to its being chartered, and for one year afterwards, this same state of things unavoidably continued. The College being (as all others are in their infancy) unknown to business men, in meeting the expenses, necessarily occurring, to sustain the operations of the Institution, Prof. Newton has still continued to become responsible for all demands, and to discharge them as they have become due. The Board has, from time to time, sanctioned and ordered the expenditure thus occurring, to be liquidated from the College funds in his possession.

Thus, the College expenditures and disbursements have, from necessity, been transacted through Prof. Newton, (no other one being willing to become pecuniarily responsible,) instead of the officers of the Institution.

The account of Prof. Newton, presented for investigation, and out of which his resignation originated, is a complete exhibit of all the business transacted for the College, from its first beginning up to the present time. In it is given an exact account of all monies and means of illustration, received at any time, for the benefit of the College; also, an exact account of the expenditures, accompanied, in a great majority of cases, by their corresponding vouchers.

From this exhibit, it appears, that Prof. Newton, in addition to his subscription, has advanced, over and above all funds, and property convertible into money, in his hands—the sum of two hundred and twenty-three dollars and seventeen cents. These funds have been expended for apparatus in the chemical, anatomical, and surgical departments, for diploma plate, &c., &c.

A thorough investigation shows, that, although as before explained there has been some informality in the reception and disbursement of funds, yet there has been no appropriation to private use, nor undue retention of it in the hands of Prof. Newton; but, on the contrary, every cent has been duly appropriated, as the Board has from time to time directed.

We have, therefore, no hesitancy in saying, not only that the charges



of embezzling funds belonging to the Institution are perfectly false, but that much credit is due Prof. Newton for his promptly meeting all demands against the Institution.

Your Committee would further report, that, in their opinion, from the incompatibility of views, which exists between Profs. Newton and Comings, and from the impossibility of their harmonizing on doctrines of medicine and in views of policy, the interests of the Institution demand that Prof. Comings be requested to resign his situation in the Faculty.

We are induced to make this recommendation, not from any preferences in favor of Prof. Newton, or prejudices against Prof. Comings; but from a conviction, that this course will best secure the success of the Institution, harmony being essential to the full prosperity of any enterprise.

Your Committee, having discharged the duties assigned them, would most respectfully submit all to the final action of the Board.

*Worcester, Mass., July 1st, 1850.*

E. MORGAN PARRITT,  
GEO. W. CHURCHILL.

This report was accepted and adopted. Prof. Comings was asked to resign his Professorship. This, however, he peremptorily refused to do;—whereupon it was voted,—unanimously, with one exception,—to declare the Professorship of Theory and Practice, and Obstetrics vacated. The cause of our dissatisfaction being thus removed, we withdrew our resignation, in accordance with the request of the Board.

By a vote of the Board, the department of Obstetrics was then united to the chair of Surgery. Also, Alva Curtis, M. D., was unanimously elected to the chair of Theory and Practice.

The honorary degree of Doctor in Medicine was then conferred on Dr. Ebenezer Robinson of Warren, Mass.

Also, the thanks of the Board were tendered to Dr. M. M. Cannon of Lancaster, Va., for the present to the Institution of some valuable specimens of morbid anatomy.

Other items of business, of less immediate interest to the public, were transacted, and the Board adjourned.

This whole matter has been of painful interest to us; but we



feel confident that the Trustees have acted wisely, and we feel that the Institution has rid itself of a weight which was sadly depressing its interests. With the removal of Prof. C., has fled from us the only relic of Thomsonism, in the low and objectionable sense of the term. The Faculty now are most harmoniously united in conducting the interests of the Institution in a liberal manner, and in permanently establishing it on a scientific basis. Dr. Curtis, so favorably known, throughout New England, will, we trust, prove a valuable accession to the Faculty. Arrangements are being made for erecting forthwith a splendid College edifice; and with the Institution's increased accommodations, and a full Board of Instruction, another season, we shall expect a Class of triple the number of any one of the former Classes.

### CURE OF LUPUS.

In the month of December, 1849, Mrs. David Stone of Oxford, Mass., came under our medical treatment, under the following circumstances. Almost ten years before, being convalescent from a fever in which she had been Allopathically treated, she discovered upon her neck, directly over the sterno-cleido-mastoid muscle, small dark-colored specks, apparently under the cuticle. These increased in number and in size, extended to each other, became more visible, and at length developed a dark surface, the edges of which were irregular, but which was equivalent in extent to three or more square inches. At length, this surface assumed the hard, rough, and scaly appearance of the elephant's skin, clearly constituting *local elephantiasis*.

About two years previous to December last, there began to arise, in the central portion of the affected skin, two or three tubercles or dark incrustations, which, as they increased, were found to contain ichorous and purulent matter, and constituted, in fact, the disease properly termed *Lupus*, or *Noli me tangere*. The latter name, in English *Touch-me-not*, has been given to this species of



cancer, because of its generally becoming worse, by being interfered with by medical men.

In the case under consideration, the lupus would occasionally discharge its contents ; and then, after appearing, for a short season, more dry and encrusted, would fill again. Much of the time, there was in it a tingling and smarting sensation, together with heat and itching ; and, on the whole, it was becoming a source of considerable annoyance.

In this condition of things, the possibility and the manner of its extirpation, became matters of no inconsiderable interest. Several physicians of eminence were consulted ; and, among them, Dr. John Green of this city. The latter was unwilling to treat it at all himself, and only advised the patient to repair immediately to a professional gentleman of great celebrity for the treatment of tumors, residing in the city of New York. Dr. G. expressed the belief, that Mrs. S.'s greatest hope of cure must arise from this source ; but plainly intimated the impossibility of any treatment's being found successful.

Allopathic *science* having gone thus far, we, by request, undertook to see what Botanic *quackery* would do, towards effecting a removal of the disease. We first made trial of several mild remedies ; but, finding them ineffectual, we resorted to a plaster made the extract of *oxalis acetocella* [wood sorrel]. The application was repeated daily for about five days, when the lupus appeared to be entirely destroyed. Mattson's healing salve was then applied ; and, in four days, the ulcer, which the plaster had created, was healed. The part has since remained well, and free from soreness and pain. For constitutional effect, anti-scrofulous and tonic remedies were used, to purify and strengthen the system ; and, in a short time, the cure was complete.

The process was simple but effectual, and the only circumstances of regret are that *common-sense quackery* should thus triumph over *non-sensical science*,—that the New York doctor should be deprived of a comfortable fee, to the amount, doubtless, of some fifty or a hundred dollars,—and that the patient should not be left mangled in body, and impaired in health, a subject for the reckless experiment of some other *would-be-wise* one in the profession.



## Receipts for the Journal.

N P. Carter,	Dec., 1849.	Austin Durkee,	Dec., 1850.
Joseph Metcalf,	May, 1850.	William Bailey,	" "
Smith Bruce,	June, "	George Andrews,	" "
John W. Cannon,	July, "	William Stephens,	" "
John Dennis,	Dec., "	Thomas Whitehall,	" "
Noah Watson,	" "	S. E. Carey,	" "
Mrs. D. Gage,	" "	William McColgin,	" "
W. W. Ayres,	" "	S. Norcross,	" "
S. H. Smith,	" "	C. L. Dow,	" "
J. Prior,	" "	H. P. Huntont,	" "
L. D. Stone,	" "	J. J. Roberts,	" "
William Fisher,	" "	F. T. Albee,	" "
C. S. Kellogg,	" "	Luman B. Hoag,	July, 1851.
Alexander Batcheller,	" "		

**To the Former Patrons of the N. E. Thomsonian Depot,  
79 and 81 Blackstone Street, Boston, Mass.**

The subscriber, having relinquished all business at the above establishment, would most respectfully introduce his friends and customers to

**MR. WILLIAM JOHNSON,**

*In rear of 47 and 49 Hanover Street.*

☞ All orders for the **PHYSIANTHROPIC PILLS** and **DR. PIKE'S UNIVERSAL PAIN ALLEVIATOR** will be filled by Mr. Johnson.

J. T. GILMAN PIKE.

Boston, April 10, 1850.

## Magnetic Remedies of Dr. H. H. Sherwood.

### CAUTION.

The subscribers are under the necessity of cautioning the public against spurious imitations of the well known Magnetic Remedies of the late Henry Hall Sherwood, M. D. manufactured under another name, and represented to be made in the same manner as the genuine articles. The genuine remedies of Dr. Sherwood can be rightly prepared only by ourselves, from the recipe which we hold from his sole executrix, (bequeathed to her exclusively by his recorded will,) and all representations to the contrary are wholly false. They are always accompanied by Dr. Sherwood's valuable treatise on the Motive Power of the Human System, the copy-right of which is in our sole possession, duly secured according to law.

With regard to any pretended knowledge by other persons of Dr. Sherwood's Remedies, it can only deceive the credulous and unwary. Further than the general information given in his published works as to the leading articles in these remedies, Dr Sherwood communicated nothing to others, as he assured his executrix in the strongest manner shortly before his death; and, even were it possible for any one to discover their entire ingredients, the knowledge would be wholly useless without long, minute, and elaborate instructions in the laboratory itself, and also repeated personal observation of the whole process of manufacture—the process being altogether too intricate and peculiar to be communicated in writing, and requiring the same personal experience and practice as has been alone received by ourselves.

These remedies are more successful in the cure of Chronic Diseases than any others known to the Medical profession. All communications should be addressed to

H. H. SHERWOOD'S Successors,  
102 Chambers st. New York.

## A good chance for a Botanic Physician.

Dr. M. L. PRIEST, Fall River, having concluded to change his business, offers his stock and trade at great sacrifice,—consisting of every article of fixtures, convenient for a practitioner. The location of his store is in the centre of the town.

Any person wishing a good situation will do well to apply soon. All communications post paid.

Sept. 11, 1849.




## NOTICES.

### **J. Jackson, M. D., Botanic Physician,**

*No. 102, Court Street...BOSTON.*

House, No. 42, Poplar Street. Calls in the city and country attended to.

 Botanic Medicines, wholesale and retail.

### **Thomsonian Infirmary and Medicine Store.**

Dr. WILLIAM CLARK may be consulted at his Infirmary, *Nos. 80 and 82, Carver Street, Boston*

### **Mattson's American Vegetable Practice, or Family Guide.**

SECOND EDITION, REVISED, WITH IMPORTANT ADDITIONS.

I. Anatomy, with a Steel Engraving of the Human Skeleton, back and front view, and a number of Wood Illustrations.

II. The Old School Practice.

III. Vegetable Materia Medica, with twenty-four beautifully colored Illustrations.

IV. Compounds.

V. Description of Diseases, Treatment, &c.

VI. Guide for Women, or Simplified Treatise of Child Birth; Description of Diseases of Females and Infants, &c.

It is generally conceded, that there is no better Botanic Work than this for families. Every Botanic Physician also should have a copy of it in his library. It has received great favor in England, and is publicly announced there, by some of the educated and prominent Physicians, as their Guide of Practice.

For sale by **WILLIAM JOHNSON,**  
the Publisher and Proprietor, at the New England Botanic Depot, rear of 47, Hanover Street, Boston, Mass. Also an extensive assortment of Botanic Medicines, and every thing that appertains to an establishment of the kind, very low, for cash or approved credit.

## **NEW MEDICAL WORK!**

### **"Kost's Elements of Materia Medica and Therapeutics."**

This is the title of a new and magnificent work, designed as a text-book in this department of our system. It is of respectable size, (nearly 600 pages,) well got up, and embellished with numerous engravings, and lithographs, copied from nature. In its arrangement the work is peculiarly interesting and useful; presenting a complete collection of medical agents, simple and compound, with a full history of their Physical Character, Chemical Analysis, Physiological Effects, Therapeutic Power and Application, Pharmaceutic Preparations, &c., &c. It will thus serve, not only as a work on simple *Materia Medica*, but as a medical *Dispensatory* or *Pharmacopœia*, and should be in the hands of every practitioner.

Sold by Dr. C. Newton, Worcester, Mass; Wm. Johnson, and B. O. and G. C. Wilson, Boston, Mass.; H. Winchester, N. Y.; E. Larrabee, Baltimore, Md.; S. M. Davis, Buffalo, N. Y.; J. Allen, Detroit, Mich.; W. F. Pool, Columbus, Ohio; and by the Proprietor in Cincinnati, Ohio.

## **Medical Notice.**

### **I. M. COMINGS, M. D.,**

Having located himself permanently in Worcester, is prepared to treat the various forms of Chronic Disease. He has given his attention particularly to this class of complaints for some years, and been very successful in his treatment. He feels a confidence in soliciting the patronage of those who are unfortunately afflicted with Scrofula, or any Cutaneous Eruption, Rheumatism, Liver Complaint, or any Affection of the Kidneys, with Old Sores or Ulcers, &c.

He has cured cases of White Swelling that have defied the treatment of the best Old School physicians, and where amputation has been pronounced absolutely necessary.

Those from a distance, who may desire to consult him, can do so by letter; stating minutely the symptoms and history of the case. To such, he can send medicines, by Express or Mail, with the necessary directions. The patient can thus, at a trifling expense, have the opportunity to test his skill without a personal visit.

Two or three young men who wish to pursue the study of medicine can be entered as students with him.

*Worcester, May, 1849.*



## Bush's Extract of Smilax, OR SPANISH SARSAPARILLA.

*Whence are the occasional failures of Sarsaparilla?* The present popularity of this invaluable medicine makes the above a frequent question; and it may not be improper to state, in this card, the most common causes of disappointment in the use of the medicine. *First*, there are only a few species of Sarsaparilla that contain the *peculiar* virtues, and it is well known, that many varieties are found in market, and are used by manufacturers. *Secondly*, the virtues of Sarsaparilla are exceedingly volatile, and are soon impaired by age; while but very little discrimination is generally made in its selection. *Thirdly*, the virtues are extremely liable to be impaired and even entirely lost by the preparation of the syrup or extract.

The proprietors of this preparation are happy now to offer, to the afflicted public, an article in which all the causes of failure have been studiously avoided; and they cannot fail to maintain the credit of this incomparably valuable medicine. The recent discovery of the true Smilax Sarsaparilla in the south, by Prof. I. M. Comings, has put us in possession of the genuine root in a fresh state; and a new method of preparation, discovered by the proprietors, enables them to offer to the purchaser a superior article of extract of Sarsaparilla. The attention of Dispensers, Druggists, Physicians, and Patients, is particularly invited to the trial of an article which is warranted genuine and superior to any other article now offered to the public.

Prepared and sold, at Wholesale & Retail, by W. & H. Bush & Co. Principal office, No. 9, Park St., Worcester, Mass. Also, for sale, by B. O. & G. C. Wilson, No. 18 Central St. Boston; by Dr. C. Newton, corner of Front and Carlton Sts., Worcester, Mass.; and at all the principal Druggists' shops and stores, throughout the N. E. States.

## Dr. E. J. Mattocks' Buena Vista Pills.

*Purely Vegetable.*

In offering this medicine to the public, we introduce the most mild, easy, and certain cathartic ever known; not the least griping or drastic effects attending their operation. We do not pretend to cure every form of disease with these pills, neither do we expect to raise the dead, or kill the living; but we do know that these pills will cure diseases of the liver, in any form; such as acute or chronic inflammation, jaundice in its worst stages, dyspepsia, constipated bowels, headache, heartburn, flatulency, and in fevers they are the only medicine needed. They will break the most malignant type, if taken in its first stage, according to the directions accompanying each box: they will also remove all female obstructions immediately; and in rheumatism and gout they are an infallible remedy if persevered in. In all affections of the kidneys and urinary organs, we can recommend them as a perfectly safe and efficacious remedy—gravel, chronic inflammation of the kidneys, or bladder stricture can be cured in a short time with these pills. As a general cathartic, they are the best ever offered to the public, because they strengthen the bowels and leave the system in a healthy state, operating without the least griping or pain.

Manufactured and sold at wholesale and retail, by the proprietor, Dr. E. J. MATTOCKS, at his Medical Dispensary, No. 24 Fifth Street, Troy, N. Y., and sold by agents throughout the United States.

## United States Thomsonian and Botanic Depot,

108 John Street, New York.

THIS Establishment, by far the largest and most extensive in this Country, and probably, in the world, possesses advantages in variety, and extensiveness of stock, peculiar to itself and difficult to be found elsewhere. The long established, and continually increasing trade from all parts of the continent, constantly centering to it, has given it a character well worth the name it bears; and the superior quality and purity of the articles furnished here, make that character envied and enviable.

The Proprietor has, for above twenty years, devoted his unremitting personal attention to this business, and customers ordering Herbs, Extracts or Medicines, may rely that he will never suffer the reputation of this Establishment to be compromised, by impure, damaged, spurious or adulterated articles being put up in it, or sent therefrom; and those who *know* him will feel a perfect assurance, that he needs no instruction in pulverizing his articles without injuring their medical qualities.

Every variety of Herbs, Roots, Barks, Extracts, Ointments, and Compounds, recommended by the various Botanical authors of our Country, constantly kept on hand, in large quantities, ready for shipment at the shortest notice.

CATALOGUES, containing a complete list of his vast stock of Botanic Simples and Compounds, Gums, Essential Oils, Distilled Waters, Syringes, Surgical Instruments, Glass Ware, Medical Works, and Miscellaneous Articles, will be furnished gratis, to all post-paid applications.

H. WINCHESTER.

108 JOHN STREET, NEW YORK.



## ATKINSON'S COMPOUND EXTRACT OF ROOTS, *For Making Root Beer.*

By following the directions, this article may be formed into a most healthful and pleasant beverage, that will more fully quench thirst, without producing a deleterious effect, than any other article in use. It acts as a PURIFIER OF THE BLOOD and the other Fluids of the Human System; and instead of giving a momentary excitement, it imparts a gentle stimulant power to the whole body. As a substitute for spirituous or malt liquors, mineral waters, or even coffee and tea, its virtues are truly astonishing, and well worthy of the high praises that have been bestowed on it by all who have given it a fair trial. It is particularly useful in all Scorbutic Affections, Diseases of the Skin, &c.

Sold Wholesale and Retail at

DR. A. ATKINSON'S BOTANIC LABORATORY AND MEDICINE STORE,  
No. 216 GREENWICH ST. BETWEEN BARCLAY & ROBINSON STS.,

New York City.

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## Laboratory of Thomsonian Botanic Medicine, *No. 20, South Calvert St.....BALTIMORE.*

THE first mill erected in the United States for the special purpose of preparing Thomsonian Botanic Medicines.

The subscriber has the largest and most complete assortment of Botanic Medicines in the United States, comprising all the various Compounds and other articles recommended by Dr. S. Thomson, besides an extensive variety of other approved Botanic Medicines. Having erected his Steam Mills expressly for the above Medicines, he is enabled to sell on the most favorable terms, and warrants his Medicines to be genuine and pure, prepared in the best manner, and clear of any deleterious or poisonous qualities, as he does not admit any thing of that nature about his establishment.

An experience of more than twenty years, in the practice, preparation, and compounding of Botanic Medicines, from the very best and purest materials in the market, has afforded him just grounds to flatter himself, that his Medicines, after a fair trial, will compete with any which may be offered to the friends of the Botanic cause, within the whole range of our country.

☞ It is of great importance, that Practitioners, and others, using Botanic Medicines, should be apprised, that all the articles manufactured at his establishment are *pulverized,—not ground,—*between an upper and nether mill-stone; as the latter process heats, and consequently injures, if it does not destroy the medical virtues of all articles submitted to such an operation.

On hand all the various Medical Works on the Botanic System, together with a general assortment of Glass Ware, Syringes, and all the articles connected with the business. Those wishing pure Medicines can be supplied on the most reasonable terms by

EPH'M. LARRABEE.

May, 1847.

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JOB T. DICKENS, M. D.,

**Thomsonian Botanic Physician & Surgeon.**

BOTANIC MEDICINES WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.

Residence—Charter Street, two doors from State Street, opposite the Post Office,  
*Newburyport, Mass.*

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## AGENCY.

The subscriber is agent for all popular weekly, monthly, and quarterly Journals.  
*Petersburgh, N. Y.*

W. R. SCRIVEN.



## NOTICE TO PHYSICIANS.

The subscribers have recently discovered a process of extracting and preserving, without alcohol, the medicinal properties of Sarsaparilla, which they offer to their customers as

### **An Alterative and Purifier of the Blood,**

as superior to any preparation in the market. It is well known to physicians that the alcohol which enters largely into all other alterative preparations, produces many of those diseases which they are designed to remove. This article is a

### **COMPOUND SARSAPARILLA SYRUP,**

of which no alcohol, in any of its forms, is a component part; and it is warranted not to ferment or freeze in any climate. It is put up in quart bottles, with directions for use.

*Price One Dollar per Bottle;*

6 bottles for five dollars; eight dollars per dozen.

No. 18, Central St., Boston.

B. O. & G. C. WILSON, *Botanic Druggists.*

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## **BOTANIC AND THOMSONIAN LABORATORY,**

**No. 18 Central Street, Seven Doors from Kilby Street,  
BOSTON, MASS.**

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### **B. O. & G. C. WILSON,**

Invite the attention of Druggists, Physicians, and all Dealers in Medicines, to their Establishment, where may be found a full and complete assortment, of

### **Botanic Medicines, Syringes, Druggist's Glass Ware, Essential**

**Oils, Extracts, Spices, and Medical Books,**

embracing all the different works upon the Reformed Practice, together with a great variety of miscellaneous articles, usually kept in such an establishment.

The above medicines are put up in their simple or compound state, pulverized or ground to meet the wants of the purchaser.

### **PERSONAL AND PARTICULAR ATTENTION**

is devoted to the manufacture and preparation of all their Medicines. The process is carried on, under their own immediate observation; and is such as to insure, to the purchaser, their full medicinal properties.

### **BRANDY, WINES, AND OTHER LIQUORS,**

of superior quality, for medicinal purposes only. Very especial attention is devoted to this branch of the business, in order to furnish liquors, that may be relied upon for their purity



# Worcester Medical Institution.

## COURSE OF STUDY, &c.

The course of study required by this Institution is intended to occupy three full years; and candidates for the regular degree of M. D. must have attended two full Courses of Medical Lectures in some established Medical College, one of which must have been in this Institution. They must present satisfactory testimonials of good moral character; must have a competent literary education; and must well sustain an examination in the various branches of medical study, as contained in our Course of Lectures, and in the text-books which we recommend, or equivalents.

The following are the principal authors recommended:—

- On Anatomy*—Morton, Wilson, Quain, Wistar, Paxton, and Harrison.
- On Surgery*—Pancoast, Drutt, Liston, Cooper, Velpeau, and Castle.
- On Physiology*—Carpenter, Oliver, Müller, and Dunglison.
- On Pathology*—Gross, Chomel, Gallup, and Watson.
- On Materia Medica*—Kost, Pereira, and Wood and Bache.
- On Auscultation and Percussion*—Laennec, Williams, Gerhard, Bowditch, and Watson.
- On Theory and Practice*—Watson, Mackintosh, Elliotson and Stewartson, Kost, Mattson, Howard, Worthy, Comfort, Smith, Curtis, and Thomson.
- On the Institutes of Medicine*—Gallup and Curtis.
- On Obstetrics and Diseases peculiar to Women and Children*—Churchill, Eberle, Chailly, Maygrier, Velpeau, Beach, and Curtis.
- On Medical Jurisprudence*—Beck and Williams.
- On Chemistry*—Gray, Fownes, and Turner.
- On Botany*—Eaton, Bigelow, Gray, and Wood.

The following are the members of the Faculty:—

- C. NEWTON, M. D., *Professor of General and Special Pathology.*
- ALVA CURTIS, M. D., *Professor of Theory and Practice.*
- E. M. PARRETT, M. D., *Professor of Chemistry and Medical Jurisprudence.*
- WALTER BURNHAM, M. D., *Professor of Surgery and Obstetrics.*
- E. H. STOCKWELL, M. D., *Professor of Anatomy and Physiology.*
- JOSEPH BROWN, M. D., *Professor of Materia Medica and Botany.*

The next Course of Lectures will commence on the first Thursday in March, 1851, and continue sixteen weeks. The fee for a full Course is \$60, in advance, with a matriculation fee of \$3. Of those who have attended two full Courses at other Medical Colleges, \$10 only are required. Graduates will be charged, in addition, \$18 for a Diploma. Good board can be had for \$2.25 per week.

The text-books recommended are consulted *eclectically*;—*authoritatively*, indeed, so far as they are descriptive of actual conditions, as in Anatomy, Physiology, Pathology, and the like; but otherwise *with careful discrimination*,—the fundamental peculiarity of what is taught in this Institution being, that there is no necessity for employing poisons of any kind, as medicinal agents; and that the object, in exhibiting any remedy, should be to sustain and not to depress the vital powers.

Quite extensive accessions have, of late, been made to the Anatomical and Chemical Apparatus, Library, &c. The Faculty of the Institution now constitute a full and eminently able Board of Instruction; and the facilities to be enjoyed by students are, in every way, ample. Dissections, surgical operations, illustrations, and experiments, are conducted in the most advantageous and instructive manner.

As, however, it is the aim of the Trustees of this Institution to render it pre-eminent for advantages afforded, any donations in money, or preparations adapted to facilitate illustrative teaching, in any of the departments, are respectfully and earnestly solicited.

C. NEWTON, *President.*

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## The New England Botanic Medical and Surgical Journal

Is published on the 1st of every month, by C. Newton, M. D., at the corner of Front and Carlton Streets, Worcester, Mass. Each number contains thirty-two pages octavo, besides the cover, and the numbers of one year constitute a volume. Terms,—to subscribers paying in advance, \$1.00 per year. Those delaying payment three months, will be charged \$1.25; and those delaying six months, \$1.50. As the price, in comparison to the amount of matter afforded, is exceedingly low, it is but reasonable that advance payment be insisted on, or that a fair equivalent for delay be required. The paper has received numerous testimonials of high approbation, and has now obtained an extensive circulation, not only in New England, but also in the South and the West. It is designed for DOMESTIC as well as PROFESSIONAL use, and should be in every family. All remittances and communications pertaining to it, should be directed, *post paid*, to the Editor. Any person forwarding, *post paid*, the names of four subscribers, and remitting \$4, shall receive a fifth copy gratis.